

Portland, Ore –Congressman Earl Blumenauer is hosting a forum, “The High Costs of Being Poor,” a conversation on the changes needed to help Oregon’s poor. The forum will highlight how the poor pay more for housing, healthcare, and financial services, and focus on ideas to reduce the higher costs that low-income Oregonians are paying for basic services. Panelists will discuss ways to develop consumer protection, level the playing field through state and federal policy, and address failures of the private market.

Blumenauer said, “Not only do the poor have less money, they often have to pay more and are prey to unscrupulous business practices and a system of taxation that benefit those who need it the least. I hope that this forum will be the first in an ongoing discussion about the changes needed to help Oregon’s poor.”

WHO: Congressmen Earl Blumenauer, invited panelists.

WHAT: “The High Costs of Being Poor”—a community forum addressing how low-income Oregonians pay more for housing, healthcare, and financial services.

WHERE: Concordia University, Hagen Center Student Commons
2811 NE Holman Street, Portland OR

WHEN: Saturday, October 7th, 2006
8:30am-11:00am